

Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Original) A detergent free dry cleaning medium based on liquid CO₂ and including from 0.01 to 5% by weight of the cleaning medium of a cleaning additive which is at least one multi-ester having a molecular weight of not more than 750.

2. (Original) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in claim 1 wherein the multi-ester includes at least one compound of the formula (1) :



where

X is -C(O)O- or -OC(O)-; such that

where X is -C(O)O-,

R¹ is a direct bond or the residue of a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group from which n hydrogen atoms have been removed; and

R² is a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group; and

where X is -OC(O)-,

R¹ is or the residue of C₂ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group from which n hydrogen atoms have been removed; and

R² is H or a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group; and

n is from 2 to 5;

the compound having a molecular weight of not more than 750.

3. (Currently amended) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in claim 2 wherein the multi-ester is of the formula (Ia):



where

X is -C(O)O-;

R^{1a} is a direct bond or the residue of a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group from which n hydrogen atoms have been removed; and

R^{2a} is a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group; and group.

4. (Original) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in claim 3 wherein the multi-ester is a dimethyl ester of adipic, glutaric or succinic acids or a mixture of such esters.

5. (Currently amended) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 wherein the average molecular weight of the multi-ester(s) is from 150 to 300.

6. (Currently amended) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein the average ratio of oxygen atoms to carbon atoms in the multi-ester (s) is from 1: 1 to 1: 5.

7. (Original) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in claim 6 wherein the average ratio of oxygen atoms to carbon atoms in the multi-ester(s) is from 1: 1 to 1: 1.5.

8. (Currently amended) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 wherein the amount of cleaning additive multi-ester present in the cleaning medium is from 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the cleaning medium.

9. (Currently amended) A dry cleaning formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 which additionally includes at least one fragrance, optical brightener, fabric conditioner, enzyme and/or bleach.

10. (Original) A method of dry cleaning which includes contacting textile material with a detergent free dry cleaning medium based on liquid CO₂ and including from

0.01 to 5% by weight of the cleaning medium of a cleaning additive which is at least one multi-ester having a molecular weight of not more than 750.

11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the multi-ester includes at least one compound of the formula (I): $R^1(XR^2)_n$ where X, R¹, R² and n are as defined in claim 2, the compound having a molecular weight of not more than 750.

12. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the multi-ester is of the formula (Ia):



where

X is -C(O)0-;

R^{1a} is a direct bond or a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group from which n hydrogen atoms have been removed; and

R^{2a} is a C₁ to C₁₀ hydrocarbyl group; and group.

13. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any~~ claim 12 wherein the multi-ester is a dimethyl ester of adipic, glutaric or succinic acids or a mixture of such esters.

14. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 13~~ claim 10 wherein the average molecular weight of the multi-ester(s) is from 150 to 300.

15. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 14~~ claim 10 wherein the average ratio of oxygen atoms to carbon atoms in the multi-ester (s) is from 1: 1 to 1: 1.5.

16. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 15~~ claim 10 wherein the amount of cleaning additive multi-ester present in the cleaning medium is from 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the cleaning medium.

17. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 16~~ claim 10 which additionally includes at least one fragrance, optical brightener, fabric conditioner, enzyme and/or bleach.
18. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 17~~ claim 10 wherein the multi-ester is pre-mixed with liquid CO₂ before contacting the textiles.
19. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 10 to 18~~ claim 10 wherein the cleaning process is carried out at a temperature of from -5 to 25°C.
20. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the temperature is ~~from~~ from 5 to 20°C.
21. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the temperature is ~~from~~ from 12 to 15°C.